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Letter dated 2 October 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 2227 (2015), I have the honour to transmit a note verbale dated 22 September 2015 from the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations, conveying the report to the Council on the implementation of the mandate of French troops in Mali (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Annex

[Original: French]

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to inform him of the following:

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 2164 (2014), paragraph 26, and resolution 2227 (2015), paragraph 27, France wishes to transmit herewith the report on activities conducted between 20 May and 31 August 2015 by France in support of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali.

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations would be grateful if the Secretary-General would bring this report to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations takes this opportunity to convey to the Secretary-General the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

Enclosure

[Original: French]

Report on the operational support provided by French forces to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali between 20 May and 31 August 2015

References: Security Council resolution 2164 (2014), paragraph 26, and resolution 2227 (2015), paragraph 27.

This ninth report since the establishment of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) summarizes the activities conducted between 20 May and 31 August 2015 by French forces in support of MINUSMA, pursuant to Council resolution 2164 (2014), paragraph 26, and resolution 2227 (2015), paragraph 27.

Since 20 May 2015, no combat action has been conducted in response to an "imminent and serious threat" to MINUSMA. It should be noted, however, that French forces have intensified their support for the Mission, as follows:

1. Logistical support

(a) Transport and related activities

On 7 June 2015, the Barkhane force sent a convoy of materiel to the Dutch contingent in Kidal, and on 19 June 2015 it transported MINUSMA civilian personnel by helicopter from Kidal to Gao.

(b) Health

The Barkhane force regularly provides medical assistance in the areas under its control (Ansongo, Gao and Tessalit) to some MINUSMA personnel in the vicinity.

2. Operational military support

In terms of instruction, the French liaison and operational support detachments have expanded the kind of across-the board training they provide to MINUSMA units, by setting up programmes of instruction devised in conjunction with the sectoral or unit command posts. The instruction covers a variety of areas: firing skills, tactical preparation for patrols, response to ambushes, use of artillery, helicopter guidance, protection against improvised explosive devices, and combat rescue operations.